

Redstone Rocket

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August 4, 2004

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The more you know, the further you'll go

*Army Continuing Education System
encourages higher learning*

By KIM HENRY

Staff writer

kimberly.henry2@redstone.army.mil

Auburn University-Montgomery has moved to Redstone; and although the Senators won't be playing here, the same quality of education will be offered.

A memorandum of understanding was signed Thursday between the Garrison and AUM to offer classes at Redstone. This makes the seventh college available on post.

The Army Education Center works in conjunction with several institutions to offer anyone with access to the Arsenal a chance at higher learning.

Linda Cameron, education services officer, says that when individuals come into the center they can see a counselor to help them with everything from career goals to financial aid.

"We put them in the program that is best for them and monitor them all the way through," she said.

Those interested can choose from Athens State University, Auburn University-Montgomery, Calhoun Community College, Columbia College, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University,

See **Education** on page 9



Photo by Kim Henry

BRUSHING UP— Pvt. Brian Sousa of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion works on a basic math placement test in the Army Education Center's Multi-Use Learning Facility.

Gate security officer: 'We're not the bad guys'

*Common courtesy expected
from drivers and guards*

By SANDY RIEBELING

Staff writer

sandy@htimes.com

Called to active duty after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, National Guardsman Alandus Virden donned his battle dress uniform, strapped an M-16 to his back and stood guard at the gates of Redstone Arsenal with the responsibility to protect the people, property and mission within its borders.

Three years later Virden, now a security officer with Alutiiq Wackenhut Security Services, stands guard at those same gates on the Arsenal. He may have traded his BDUs for a blue uniform and his M-16 for a 9 mm but his mission is the same.

"We're the first line of defense here," Virden said. "I don't ever want to see the events of 9/11 happen again, but we know there are people out there trying to make it happen. They just picked up some guys with explosives ready to hit

shopping malls. We have to stay vigilant and prepared. My uniform may have changed but the mission is the same: to protect and serve the people of this installation. It's serious business. If it wasn't, we wouldn't have a weapon on us."

Although the mission remains the same, it seems that attitudes are changing. While the smoke was still rising from the terrorist attacks on the Pentagon and the Twin Towers and the time it took to get through the Arsenal gates was upwards of two hours, drivers were annoyed but understanding and even grateful that someone was watching over them, keeping them safe where they live and work.

As the images of those tragic events fade, so does the patience and courtesy of drivers at the gates who experience even minimal delays due to security checks.

"People need to know, we're not the bad guys," Virden said. "9/11 changed the world. We don't make the rules, we enforce them. It's our job, just like a

See **Guards** on page 17



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

ID PLEASE— Security officer Derek Dougherty checks for proper identification of a visitor at Gate 10 on Patton Road.

Letters to the Editor

Civilian aide gives update

Over a year has passed since my appointment as Alabama's civilian aide to the secretary of the Army. I wanted to share with your readers some of the exciting events and issues that I'm involved with in my CASA role.

I want to begin by sharing with you some significant news that is not getting a lot of attention.

In December 2003, President Bush signed into law two acts that have a major and far-reaching impact on Soldiers and service-connected issues.

The first one signed on Dec. 16 is "The Veterans Benefits Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-183)." This new law is focused principally on enhancing business opportunities for Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business entities.

The Veterans Benefits Act of 2003 is really significant. One of the law's 39 provisions allows federal agencies to create "sole-source" contracts for disabled veteran-owned small businesses for up to \$5 million for manufacturing contract awards and up to \$3 million for non-manufacturing contract awards. And it allows federal agencies to restrict certain contracts to disabled veteran-owned small businesses if at least two such concerns are qualified to bid on the contract.

There are many other changes affecting education, housing and so on. Go to www.vba.va.gov to learn more. Or do a google search (www.google.com) for Veterans Benefits Act of 2003 and you will find several sites sharing information about the new law.

The second bill, "The Servicemembers' Civil Relief Act (SCRA)," was signed into law Dec. 19. The SCRA is a revision and update of the old "Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act" that was

originally enacted into law in 1940. The new SSCRA covers such issues as rental agreements, security deposits, prepaid rent, eviction, installment contracts, credit card interest rates, mortgage interest rates, mortgage foreclosure, civil judicial proceedings, and income tax payments. It also provides many important protections to military members while on active duty.

To learn more about this extremely important new law, go to www.gpoaccess.gov/uscode on the web and type in Servicemembers' Civil Relief Act in the search feature. Or, do a google search using the same text. The web has several sites that can assist with understanding the new law.

Lastly, headquarters Department of Army has established a Disabled Soldier Support System to provide severely disabled Soldiers with a system of advocacy to assist them as they transition from active duty to contributing members of their local communities. Acting Secretary of the Army Brownlee has requested support and assistance from the nation's CASAs with this initiative and it will be a topic of discussion at this year's annual meeting. If you have any thoughts, suggestions or ideas with regard to this initiative, please e-mail me at RedstoneAUSA@comcast.net.

I want to thank all of you for the support and encouragement you have provided me. If you think I can ever support you in any way, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Hoo-ah!

John Rogers
civilian aide to the Secretary of the Army for the state of Alabama

Thanks for your dedication

My military-civil service career which has spanned the Korean Conflict to Operation Iraqi Freedom is ending. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone, both in the public and private sectors, for their support.

Your unflagging dedication, hard work and camaraderie have made a significant contribution to equipping and sustaining both our nation's armed forces, and those of our allies. I honor and salute you!

Gene Paro
director,
Security Assistance
Management Directorate

Quote of the week

"I race to win."

— **Lance Armstrong**
Six-time champion of cycling's
Tour de France

Straight shooting from outdoorsmen

Few will argue that hunting and fishing have been valued American traditions. But increasingly today, there are those who argue that these sports have outlived their relevance and should go the way of the dinosaur and the horse and buggy.

For anyone familiar with the role that hunting and fishing have played in shaping and driving our nation's conservation movement, an end to these traditions in America is an alarming and discouraging thought. With this Sept. 25 marking the annual celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Day, there may be no more appropriate time to comment on the past and future role of these sports in America.

It was an avid hunter and outdoorsman, Theodore Roosevelt, who helped launch the conservation movement. President Roosevelt established the nation's first national wildlife refuge, and since that time, hunters and anglers have followed his lead, supporting special license fees and taxes on their equipment to fund conservation efforts. Over the years, this group of Americans has contributed more than \$23 billion to environmental protection programs, which, in turn, have led to the remarkable resurgence of many native species of wildlife – including the

white-tailed deer, wood duck, wild turkey and elk.

For various and complex reasons, hunting and fishing enthusiasts like ourselves often have an immediate and intense reaction to anyone who questions the validity of these traditions. This reaction is often expressed in an energetic – and often counterproductive – refusal to adapt to change. In the struggles for public opinion and acceptance, however, intransigence rarely wins the day.

As outdoor enthusiasts, we have a responsibility to be honest in our approach to the current debate about the hunting and fishing traditions. We must be honest in admitting our imperfections. We must continue to do all we can to eliminate the abuses committed by a few people who profess to be hunters and anglers but who are, in fact, not worthy of these traditions. In return, our opponents should do the responsible thing by acknowledging our past conservation accomplishments – as do most major conservation organizations – and admit the legitimacy of our presence in the outdoors.

Bill Moreland and Tom Pyburn
Morale Welfare and Recreation
Outdoor Recreation Division

An open lane random survey

What is the best thing you did this summer?

By **KELLEY LANE**

Staff writer
kellyqa@bellsouth.net



Pfc. Kenneth Young
Detachment 2

"The best thing I did this summer was driving a total of 12 hours to Augusta, Ga., to go visit my girlfriend, Kelly."

Pfc. Adam Green
336th postal unit

"Planning my wedding with my fiancée, Carrie, for the end of the summer."



Sgt. Robert Munson
Marine Detachment

"I worked at a youth summer camp."



Christine Yergert
post visitor

"We went on vacation to Mountain Home, Ark."



Redstone Rocket

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Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents.

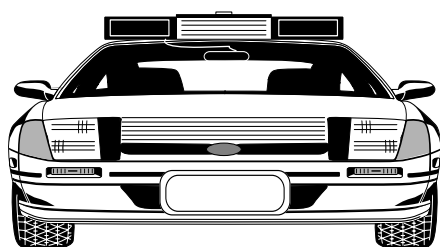
July 26: An individual was found to be in possession of an illegal weapon during a vehicle inspection at Gate 1. He was issued a violation notice and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

July 26: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license and making a false statement during a vehicle inspection at Gate 9. He was issued two violation notices and released.

July 26: An individual was found to be in possession of a small amount of marijuana during a vehicle inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released.

July 27: An individual was found to be in possession of marijuana during a vehicle inspection at Gate 3. He was issued a violation notice and released.

July 28: An individual was found to be in possession of marijuana during a vehicle inspection at Gate 3. He was issued a violation notice and released.



cle inspection at Gate 3. He was issued a violation notice and released.

July 29: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during a vehicle inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Traffic accidents reported: 3 without injuries, none with injuries.

Violation notices issued: 10 speeding, 1 possession of dangerous weapon, 3 possession of a controlled substance, 1 making a false report, 1 improper display of license plate, 4 expired registration and 2 driving with a suspended driver's license.



Courtesy photo

Community support

Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers contributed items to be shipped to members of the National Guard 279th Signal Battalion from Huntsville/Guntersville who are serving in Iraq. From left are Chief Warrant Officer Dwayne Jennings of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 279th Signal Battalion; and ASMC members Virginia Moore, Jan Smith and Myra Cox.

Getting to know you

By KIM HENRY
Staff writer
kimberly.henry2@redstone.army.mil

Name: Jonathan Salters

Job: Logistics analyst,
Lower Tier Project
Office, Fort Bliss, Texas

Where do you call home?
Cleveland, Ohio

What do you like about your job?

Two things: working with the Patriot weapon system and the interaction with

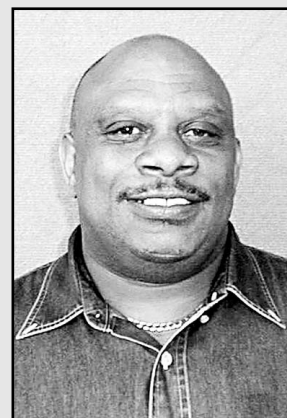
the Soldiers on a daily basis.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Work out, go to sporting events with my children and read.

What are your goals?

Do the best I can at the task put forth to me and to be an asset to the organization I work for. I have truly enjoyed working with the AMCOM community (civilian and military) for the past 25 years



and especially working here at Fort Bliss. Hoo-ah!

Bring your right-hand person to celebrate

Right Arm Night represents a first

By KIM HENRY
Staff writer
kimberly.henry2@redstone.army.mil

Say aloha and thank you to your best associate Friday at "Right Arm Night."

"Right Arm Night is an opportunity for leaders or bosses to invite their right-hand person to a social event at the club to show their appreciation for a job well done," post Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Lunn said. "It also helps to build a stronger relationship that facilitates a better working environment."

Friday night will mark the first Right Arm Night for Redstone. All Redstone personnel including installation Soldiers, NCOs, officers and civilians are invited.

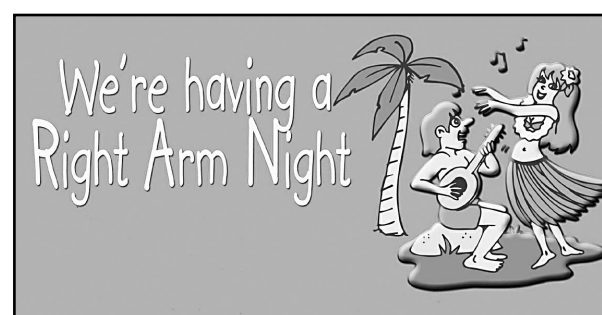
Right Arm Night is a tradition in the Army, according to Lunn. He said it is important to continue Army customs and traditions at Redstone so that the younger generation of NCOs and officers will know and under-

stand them.

"It is a way for us to bring both the NCOs and officers together to bond and relax as a group," he said. "Here at Redstone since we have a large civilian workforce they are also invited because of their critical role in the day-to-day operation of the installation mission."

The event is 4-7 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. The theme for the night is Hawaiian. There will be a best dressed contest, hula-hoop and limbo contests, door prizes as well as a pool. Dinner includes a Kahlua pig, Hawaiian stir fry and hors d'oeuvres.

Tickets can be purchased for \$5 before the event by calling Lunn's office at 876-1874 or the club at 830-2582. Tickets will be \$7 at the door.



Blue star banners show support for military families



Photo by Zachary Wynn

ALL SMILES— Jennifer Avans, wife of Pvt. Darnell Avans of 926th Engineer Battalion, and the couple's son, Skyler, enjoy the festivities during Blue Star Banner Family Day.

Reservists' family members have their day of good will

By KRISTI FOSTER
For the Rocket

"Today family members are the VIPs," said John Perry, who, along with his wife Brenda, serve as Family Readiness Group coordinators for Bravo Company, 926th Engineer Battalion, U.S. Army Reserves.

Perry addressed more than 150 family members who attended the Blue Star Family Day on July 24 at Diane Campbell Recreation Center. "This is a day when we have an opportunity to honor you all and to say thank you for what your sons and daughters, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters are doing for our country," he said.

The Blue Star Family Day was held to show appreciation and support for families of mobilized Reservists in Huntsville and the surrounding area.

"Initially the family day event was to center around Bravo Company, 926th Engineers," Perry said. "However, it was quickly expanded to include other



Photo by Kristi Foster

STAR FAMILY— Bill Meier, commander of the American Legion Madison Post 229, presents two Blue Star Banners to Stephen and Janice Luchner and their daughter Jessie. Their sons — Cpl. Anthony Luchner, helicopter Marine light attack Hueys and Cobras, and Lance Cpl. Nathaniel Luchner, heavy Marine helicopter, 769th Reserve Unit — are serving overseas.

Reserve units in and around the Huntsville community."

Bill Meier, commander of American Legion Madison Post 229, and Ed Banville, representative of post 229, led efforts to obtain banners for the families. Meier presented 67 banners to family members during the ceremony.

Accompanying Meier in congratulating the families were Col. Bob Devlin, Garrison commander; Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer; Joe Fitzgerald, president of Redstone/Huntsville Chapter, Association of the U.S. Army; Jim Rountree, vice president for military family programs, AUSA; Bill Hogan, Veterans Coalition member and Shriner; as well as unit and family readiness group representatives.

Blue Star Service Banners have been a part of wartime history since 1917. They serve as a way for households to show family pride in their loved ones serving in the military and to remind others of the sacrifice many Americans make to preserve freedom.

On hand to provide information and answer family members' questions were representatives from the American Red Cross, Tricare, Commissary and Post Exchange, 81st Regional Support Command, 926th Engineer Battalion chaplain, Morale Welfare and Recreation, and Army Community Service. The day's activities included lunch which was sponsored by Hooters, Papa John's, Pepsi and MWR.

"We think this day has been wonderful. It's nice that everyone is making the effort to do this for families," said Yvette Farmer, mother of Pfc. Dustin Farmer, B

Company, 926th Engineer Battalion, stationed in Afghanistan. "We're so proud of Dustin and what he's doing. He's been away almost a year and we miss him so much. He's scheduled to come home for his R&R soon so we'll be seeing him before long. Dustin is a bull rider and he plans to go to a couple of rodeos and do some hunting and fishing while he's home."

Stephen and Janice Luchner have two sons serving overseas, Cpl. Anthony Luchner, helicopter Marine light attack Hueys and Cobras, and Lance Cpl. Nathaniel Luchner, heavy Marine helicopter, 769th Reserve Unit.

"We think it's so nice the way the community and families are pulling together," Janice Luchner said. "Our sons feel good about what they're doing and they're proud to be a part of the effort. They know that we live in a great country and they want to do their part to keep it that way."

"Family Day and the Blue Star Banner ceremony was a success beyond my expectations," Perry said. "My thanks to Col. Devlin, Dan Ahern and all of the support agencies, families and FRG members that made this day such a success. Several wives and mothers have come up to me with tears in their eyes to thank me for their banner and the outpouring of good will and support from everyone at the event. It gives me great satisfaction to know that we were able to help make the burden on these families a little lighter, the wait a little shorter and the world a little friendlier."

Families not immune from combat stress in wartime

Emotional impact described in stages

By ROXANNE WYSOCK
For the Rocket

While everyone is feeling worry and uncertainty regarding our military activities in Iraq and other regions, it is the military families that are more likely to be suffering from severe stress.

The stress of combat affects military personnel and their families in three possible stages, according to military psychologists.

Stage one — pre-deployment — may include worries about when the Soldier will leave, how long he or she will be gone, uncertainty about what to expect, physical harm and even death.

In stage two — deployment — the worries from stage one may continue along with separation anxiety, loss of family and social support and lack of communication

with loved ones.

Stage three is reunion. Even though reunions are most often joyous occasions, the reality of the separation is there and all family members must acknowledge what each went through during the separation.

Coping skills

The coping skills for dealing with any stressful family situation may be similar for military families navigating through stages 1-3. All or a combination of any may assist the family in dealing with their stress.

Talking about your situation with other families in the same circumstance can help. It is comforting to know others share your feelings. Consider joining a support group on post.

Resist the urge to let your physical well-being slide. Now more than ever it is important to eat right, get plenty of rest, continue exercising and avoid excess use of alcohol or drugs.

It is difficult to turn on the television

and not have the military situation in your living room. The reported information and images can be distressing. Consider limiting your exposure to the news if it increases your anxiety.

Listen to children

Children often react to the adults around them. Discuss their feelings openly and let them know they are experiencing normal emotions. Let them know it is OK to talk with you any time about their questions, insecurities and fears. The children will probably also find comfort in keeping their daily routine. There is reassurance in knowing what to expect.

It is time to take care of you. Do things you enjoy and that relax you. Hiking, attending a concert, reading a good book or taking a relaxing bath are all examples of ways to nourish you during this stressful time.

Finally, if you cannot seem to shake your feelings of anxiety or depression, consider seeking professional help. Do

not suffer in silence. Make use of the resources that are available to you, both from the military and the private sector.

Editor's note: Roxanne Wysock works at Trinity Counseling Center Inc.



Photo by Mindy Shelton

Guest speaker

Dr. Greg Gum of the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Foundation receives a certificate of appreciation from Debra Kelley, president of the American Society of Military Comptrollers, Huntsville/Redstone Chapter. He spoke about the restoration of the Saturn V rocket at the chapter's July 8 luncheon at Trinity Personal Growth Center.

Bright suggestions for home lighting

The Redstone Arsenal Energy Management Office provided the following tips regarding lighting.

- Use one larger light bulb instead of several small ones in areas where bright light is needed. In general, the efficiency of incandescent light bulbs increases as the wattage increases. For example, one 100-watt incandescent bulb provides approximately 1,720 lumens or the same amount of light as two 60-watt bulbs (120 watts and 1,720 lumens) or four 40-watt bulbs (160 watts and 1,980 lumens), but consumes

less electricity.

- Use compact fluorescent lights instead of incandescent bulbs wherever possible. Compact fluorescents are 3-4 times more efficient than incandescent and last 10 times as long.

- Long-life incandescent light bulbs (1,500 to 3,500 hours lifetime) are less efficient than regular life incandescent because the filament operates at a lower temperature to extend the life. Energy-conscious consumers should use long-life bulbs only where replacement is difficult; or even better, replace those hard to reach incandes-

cent lights with compact fluorescent lights that have a life of 10,000 hours or more.

For more information, call energy manager Mark Smith 842-0014 or resource efficiency manager Bob Quick 842-0235.

Missile Defense Agency emplaces first interceptor

*Fort Greely site
marks new era*

MDA RELEASE

FORT GREELY, Alaska — The Ground-based Midcourse Defense element of the U.S. Missile Defense Agency emplaced the first Ground Based Interceptor July 22 on the Missile Defense Complex at Fort Greely.

The emplacement of this GBI, “marks the end of an era where we have not been able to defend our country against long-range ballistic missile attacks,” said Maj. Gen. John Holly, program director for the GMD Joint Program Office.

There are countries that possess weapons of mass destruction and have the ability to launch ballistic missiles that could impact the United States, he said. “While this system will constitute an initial limited capability, it is a vast improvement over our current defensive posture, which is nonexistent.”

The GBI installed July 22 has undergone rigorous test and checkout activities. “At the system level, we have been successful in four of the last five flight tests, conducted extensive ground test activities, completed detailed integration and interoperability testing between various sites, and concluded extensive modeling and simulation activities,” Holly said. “We will continue to test the system as it

matures and evolves to ensure that we provide the best defense for our country.”

“This is a proud day for our joint team and a historic day for our country,” said Col. Jeffery Horne, deputy commander for operations for Space and Missile Defense Command and Army Strategic Command who was at Fort Greely for the emplacement. “Our Soldiers are trained and ready to defend the nation with the exceptional tools the Missile Defense Agency has worked so diligently to produce and perfect. We are looking to the future with great pride and determination.”

Up to five more interceptors will be emplaced at Fort Greely by the end of 2004, with up to 10 additional interceptors emplaced by the end of 2005.

The site will operate and maintain interceptor missiles and related support facilities to provide an initial defensive capability against a limited long-range missile attack against the United States.

The GMD Joint Program Office based at Redstone Arsenal is responsible for developing and deploying an initial defensive capability to defend the United States against a small number of long-range ballistic missiles.

Boeing is the prime contractor for the GMD program; other team members include Orbital Sciences Corp., Raytheon, Northrop-Grumman and Lockheed Martin.



Courtesy photo

STANDING READY— The first Ground-based Interceptor is lowered into its silo at the Missile Defense Complex at Fort Greely on July 22. The interceptor is designed to destroy incoming intercontinental ballistic missiles before they reach U.S. airspace.

Army moves up fielding of Future Combat Systems

By GARY SHEFTICK
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army plans to accelerate the fielding of some Future Combat Systems such as armed robotic vehicles, unattended ground sensors and unattended munitions.

The Army is taking advantage of leaps and bounds in wireless technology to “spiral” FCS development, said Lt. Gen. Joseph Yakovac, military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. He said spiraling allows for a more flexible approach to system development, to add technology as it emerges.

“The Army evolves by putting future ideas forward as they become available,” Yakovac said.

Army leaders also plan to field sooner, to more of the force, an automation network known as the “System of Systems Common Operating Environment,” or SOSCOE. Yakovac likened SOSCOE to the “windows” operating system of a computer, but infinitely larger, and said the network will allow units to “plug and play” the FCS pieces.

“We are basically building the Internet you use every day and moving it into battle space,” Yakovac said. He added that it’s a big challenge to make that network secure, yet accessible by all Soldiers and integrated with all systems.

Future Combat System technology will be inserted into the brigade-sized units of

action the Army is establishing, said Brig. Gen. Charles Cartwright, program manager for the FCS UAs. He said one of the UAs will be selected as an “experimental unit” to test all the new FCS technology in 2008. A projected 32 of the 43 UAs will be fielded with some FCS capabilities by 2014.

‘We’re looking to combine the best of both (wheeled and tracked capabilities) in these vehicles.’

— Lt. Gen. Joseph Yakovac
military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology

Over the life of the FCS program (2025 plus), 15 selected UAs will become FCS Units of Action, Cartwright said. These units will be fielded with all 18 of the Future Combat Systems, he said, and they will have extraordinary capabilities.

The rest of the modular UAs are still slated to receive the network and some of the FCS developments. For instance, the Non-Line of Sight Launch System, or “rockets in a box,” as Yakovac called them, are intended to be fielded widely. This pod of missiles can be aimed and fired from miles away.

The unmanned sensors and robotic vehicles are also intended for wide dissemination. In fact, a small unmanned robotic vehicle is already being used today in Iraq and Afghanistan to detect mines.

Part of the FCS announcement included “buying back” five of the Future Combat Systems that had been previously deferred. Added back to the FCS list are:

- Armed Robotic Vehicles (ARV Assault and ARV RSTA [Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Target Acquisition])
- Recovery and Maintenance Vehicle
- Intelligent Munitions Systems
- Class II Unmanned Air Vehicles (medium size)
- Class IV UAVs (capable of large payloads of both sensors and weapons and able to hover like a helicopter to maneuver up, down and sideways).

In order to fund the development of the five new systems, the rate of purchase for the eight manned FCS vehicles will be slowed down slightly. But research and development for all the FCS vehicles will continue on schedule, Yakovac said.

A “demonstration” version of the first manned FCS vehicle, the Non-Line of Sight Cannon, is now being tested at Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz. The NLOS Cannon vehicle has a 155mm weapon and weighs less than 24 tons.

It’s light, but can handle recoil, said Daniel Pierson, who works for the assistant secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology).

The current NLOS Cannon vehicle runs on rubber tracks, but Yakovac stressed that the decision has not yet been made whether the manned FCS vehicles will be tracked or wheeled.

“We’re looking to combine the best of both (wheeled and tracked capabilities) in these vehicles,” he said.

Another change is that all manned

vehicles will receive active protective systems. Yakovac said that decision stems from lessons learned in Iraq.

“In a 360-degree fight, everything needs protection,” he said, even support vehicles.

“A lot of capability can be brought to a vehicle by software,” he said. For instance, the FCS vehicles will have digital command and control, automatic target acquisition, the Joint Tactical Radio System, and the Warfighter Information System Tactical, known as WIN-T, and more.

Officials plan to field the first FCS vehicles in 2008 and spiral the development to most of the Army by 2025. In the meantime, however, and for years into the future, the M-1 Abrams tank, Bradley Fighting Vehicle and other current weapons systems will remain important, said Lt. Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin, Army deputy chief of staff for Programs, G8.

Other Future Combat Systems include:

- Infantry Carrier Vehicle
- Command and Control Vehicle
- Mounted Combat System
- Recon and Surveillance Vehicle
- Non-Line of Sight Mortar
- NLOS Cannon
- NLOS Launch System
- Medical Treatment and Evacuation vehicle

- Unattended Ground Sensors
- Class I UAVs (small)
- Class III UAVs (fixed-wing)
- unmanned Countermine MULEs
- unmanned Transport MULEs.

When talking about FCS, Yakovac often refers to “18 systems plus one.” The one is the “network,” he explained.

The Soldier is going to be “a node in the network,” Yakovac said.

“The guy in the middle is the Soldier...” he said, “and if we don’t do all that we can to make his life better, then we have failed.”

Education

continued from page 1

Florida Institute of Technology and Oakwood College on post. There are also many learning opportunities available online.

The center can help individuals obtain an associate, bachelor's, master's or even certification in areas like real estate, accounting and computer programming. There are 20 classrooms throughout the installation that offer classes from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday anytime from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Most of all, the Army Continuing Education System is built with the Soldier in mind. With programs like Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges Army Degrees, Soldiers can complete their degrees no matter where they go. The SOCAD student agreement guarantees to accept transfer courses from SOCAD colleges without individual approval.

"If a Soldier starts here at Columbia College and gets deployed, they can take the courses they need at other SOCAD colleges to transfer back into their degree," Sam Whitaker, education services specialist, said.

Cameron said institutions like Central Texas College even go with Soldiers to wherever they get deployed. "Anywhere there are Soldiers, there are education centers," she said.

The Redstone education center has a new program, Modernized Education Management Information System, that allows it to see a Soldier's education records from anywhere in the world to help supervise his or her progress.

The schools on post are accommodating as well. "The colleges are very Soldier friendly," Whitaker said. "Soldiers can work with them if they have a problem.

They will adjust the schedule if a Soldier goes TDY."

Best of all, Soldiers can get an education for little to nothing. Whitaker said approximately 18 semester hours annually are free to servicemembers.

Sgt. Anthony Hunter of the Missile Systems Training Department said he is pleased with his college experience.

"It is very convenient," the Columbia College student said. "You have plenty of time to go to school and get your education." Hunter is pursuing an associate degree. After that he plans to get a bachelor's in criminal justice.

There are free college programs specifically for military spouses as well. Columbia College is offering one free undergraduate class to a spouse of an active duty Soldier starting in August. The state of Alabama offers free tuition of up to two years for any spouse whose sponsor is deployed.

"It is almost a sin not to go to school," Whitaker said.

The Redstone education center offers English as a second language class as well as 30 self-paced foreign language classes. It has programs to help Soldiers increase their general technical score and study aids for college entrance exams like the SAT and ACT and graduate exams like the GRE, LSAT and GMAT.

Redstone education center workers encourage individuals and especially Soldiers to keep learning. "We stay on them, because this is their chance and we don't want to let them slip by," Whitaker said.

"It's very, very rewarding," Cameron said. "When you get to see someone reach their goal, you feel really good about it. It has to be the most satisfying career; we measure our success by their success."

Those interested should call 876-9761 or visit the Army Education Center on Snooper Road. No appointment is necessary.



Photo by Kim Henry

REDSTONE RIVALRY— Col. Bob Devlin, Garrison commander, provided Auburn "Aubie" and Alabama "Big Al" figures for the memorandum of understanding signing with Dr. Gloria McPherson, who represents Auburn University-Montgomery. Looking on from left are Dr. Ralph Iomo, program manager for AUM at Redstone; Linda Cameron, education services officer; and Joe Winston, director of the garrison's Human Resources Directorate.

Army posts to grow with brigade combat teams

Permanent locations to be decided in '05

By Sgt. LORIE JEWELL
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A number of Army installations will grow by several thousand Soldiers in the next few years as a result of decisions on where new brigade combat teams (units of action) will be temporarily based, according to senior Army officials.

Permanent locations will be decided during the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure process, also known as BRAC.

"It is an operational necessity right now to build these brigade combat team units of action and get them into the field as quickly as possible," said Brig. Gen. David Ralston, director of force management in the Army's G-3, at a media briefing.

In the thick of fighting the Global War on Terror, the Army is transforming from a division-based force into smaller, more rapidly deployable brigade-based units of action that will provide greater combat power. Plans call for 43 modular brigade combat teams (units of action), or BCT (UA)s, to be in place by fiscal year 2006, up from 34 brigades the Army has now. The National Guard will also transform its current combat force to 34 modular BCT (UA)s.

The 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Ga., has reset from three brigades into four BCT (UA)s and is preparing to return to Iraq this winter. The 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky., will begin resetting this fiscal year, as will the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, N.Y. Those changes are expected to add about 1,400 more Soldiers to Fort Stewart; 300 to Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Ga.; 400 to Fort Benning, Ga.; 4,200 to Fort Drum; and 3,000 to Fort Campbell. These numbers are likely to change as the Army continues to implement plans.

In fiscal 2005, the 2nd Cavalry Regiment will convert to a Stryker Brigade Combat Team and move from Fort Polk, La., to Fort Lewis, Wash. That move will add about 3,900 Soldiers to Fort Lewis. New BCT (UA)s will also stand up at Fort Polk, which will see an overall increase of about 300 Soldiers; Fort Richardson, Alaska, where 2,600 additional Soldiers are anticipated; and Fort Hood, Texas, which will grow by about 5,000 Soldiers.

The Soldiers will be assigned to the new units of action through cross-leveling, PCS moves, and straight out of advanced individual training, or AIT. Some will also be transferred from Korea and other overseas locations, and after completing drill sergeant and recruiting tours. Officials pledged to limit back-to-back combat tours as much as possible.

Once permanently stationed with a new unit of action, the Army will make every effort to allow Soldiers to remain at

an installation for up to seven years.

In deciding where to position the new units of action, planners said they considered several factors: the location of an installation in regard to its power projection; its training capabilities; whether its existing infrastructure and the surround-

ing community could handle an influx of additional Soldiers; and the ability to minimize turbulence to Soldiers and their families.

The Center for Military History is examining options for renaming these formations and to decide unit designations.



Courtesy photo

Refreshing tour

Sgt. Jonathan Reynaldo of the Philippines looks at the Philippine related display at World of Coke in Atlanta. The International Military Student Office took a group of international student soldiers on an informational program tour to Atlanta July 24-25.

Benefit updates on annual menu for military retirees

*Retiree Appreciation Day
scheduled for Aug. 28*

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
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Military retirees represent a large part of the local community. They make good use of the benefits and services available to them, when they know what they are. Keeping up with changes to services can be difficult. One way to get all the information they need is to attend annual Retiree Appreciation Day, Aug. 28 in Bob Jones Auditorium.

“It’s important for the retirees to attend and get acquainted with latest things going on as far as the VA, finance offices and activities that impact the daily lives of our retirees,” George Shepard, co-chairman of the retiree council, said. “It’s important for them to be up-to-date in their information and know what’s available and what they can get in the way of support.”

Beginning that morning at 7, a free breakfast will be served and attendees will have the chance to socialize before the formal opening of the event at 8. A slew of speakers are scheduled throughout the day. Col. John Sackett, chief of Combat Related Special Compensation team, and Shari Burnum of Investors’ Resource are the morning’s speakers. Ann Schowalter, chief at benefits, eligibility and enrollment for U.S. Department of Veterans

Affairs medical and hospital, is scheduled to speak after the lunch break. Schowalter is a highly anticipated addition to this year’s event.

“We’ve really tried hard to get her here this year to answer questions and provide information,” Shepard said.

‘We’re trying to get the word out that we’re here for the retirees.’

— *Ernest Weir*
Retiree council co-chairman

Lunch is available by reservation. A meal of roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean casserole and buttered carrots with rolls, dessert and a drink will be served in the Sparkman Cafeteria for \$8 per person. No meal tickets will be sold at the door, so reservations are required. The Huntsville Concert Band will provide music in the cafeteria.

“We’re trying to get the word out that we’re here for the retirees,” Ernest Weir, retiree council co-chairman, said. “We’re going to have a lot of good presentations about all the things that are available.”

A “county fair” of exhibits and services for retirees will be set up in the lobby of the auditorium. They will showcase services and features for retirees, many of which will be performed on the spot. Since this is an election year, voting registration and information will be among the

services available.

Legal Services will have attorneys on hand to draft simple wills, powers-of-attorney and provide notary services free of charge to retirees and dependents. Those wishing to use legal services should bring documents pertaining to their needs, including a will worksheet. The worksheet is available online at www.redstone.army.mil/legal/lao.html for downloading and printing. Defense Finance and Accounting Service will have its computers ready to make changes to retirement accounts. Retirees should bring documentation items such as marriage and birth certificates or divorce decrees. All DFAS forms will be provided on site. Redstone’s Military Identification branch will also be present to make and

update identification cards.

An estimated more than 50 exhibits and booths will assist retirees with records, benefits and other needs including expanded services and health screening from Fox Army Health Center. Door prize drawings will be made for items and gift certificates donated by Morale Welfare and Recreation, the Post Exchange, Commissary and SATO Travel.

Attendees must enter the installation through gates 1, 9 or 10 on the day of the event. Those without a vehicle sticker should bring photo identification for themselves and all passengers. For more information on Retiree Appreciation Day events, scheduling, lunch reservations or for assistance call retirement services officer Cynthia Anderson at 876-2022.

Don’t wait until last minute to register to vote

*Voting assistance officers
ready to answer questions*

By **SANDY RIEBELING**
Staff writer
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Both presidential candidates hit the campaign trail last week hoping to win the votes of Americans across the country. While they champion their platforms from state to state by bus, Joe Winston

and Lew Spencer with Redstone’s Federal Voter’s Assistance Program don’t want anyone to miss the boat when it comes to voting.

“You can’t wait until the last minute to register to vote,” Spencer, installation adjutant general, said. “Each state’s requirements are different: Where to mail the post card (federal post card application)? Does it have to be notarized or not? What is the time limit to register? When

See **Vote** on page 15



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

BE COUNTED— Joe Winston, left, garrison human resources director, and Lew Spencer, installation adjutant general, head the Federal Voter’s Assistance Program at Redstone. They want you to vote.

Retiring director finds father knew best after all



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FATHER'S INFLUENCE— Gene Paro, retiring director of Security Assistance Management Directorate, poses in front of artwork by his father who was a career Navy officer and accomplished artist.

Gene Paro plans to return to classical piano passion

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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No, the father tells the teenage son, you will not pursue your dream of becoming a classical pianist because you can return to the piano later. You will instead go to the U.S. Naval Academy.

The boy obeys his father, himself a Navy officer. He goes to the Naval Academy and becomes a Marine. He leads a battalion in Vietnam and retires as a colonel. He earns his doctorate. He becomes a high-level civilian at Redstone Arsenal.

And now, after 50 years of government service — including 24 years military — Gene Paro is retiring. Now he has time to pursue his passion; he has returned to the piano. His father was right after all, he says, because he has time now.

Paro, director of the Security Assistance Management Directorate, sits at his office desk and writes notes about his life in long hand for a visitor. Classical music plays softly on the table behind his desk. Artwork by his father, who retired as a rear admiral and was an accomplished artist — gave a one-man show at the Faragat Art Gallery in New York City in the early 1940s — adorns his walls.

"It's more than a hobby," said Paro, who started playing the piano again seven years ago in the wee hours of the night at his home. "It's a path that I wanted to take early in life and didn't. Now I want to take it again. And the joy of it is you're never too old."

As a youth, Paro studied classical piano for four years with teacher Norman Frauenheim who was in turn a student of the famous Ignaz Paderewski. His parents, then Navy Capt. Gene and Nancy Paro, made sacrifices so their only child could take these weekly lessons which were expensive (\$100 for a half hour in the 1940s). Frauenheim asked the elder Paro to allow his son to go to Paris to study with him. But his father said no, that his son would follow his military footsteps by attending the Naval Academy. So after finishing Western High in Washington, D.C. — where he was a high school classmate of future astronaut Ed

White — Paro gave up the piano, went on to the Naval Academy in 1949 and graduated in 1953.

"My father—I don't fault him—he made the right decision," Paro said. "I've always understood and it's worked out well."

He pointed out that less than 2 percent of college athletes ever make it professionally and the number is probably even smaller for aspiring pianists who become professional pianists.

"So I think my father was playing the odds. He was right. I respect his decision," Paro said. "And he always told me, you can always go back to it and he was right."

Paro, 73, didn't play the piano for 48 years before making a comeback in 1997. "I did it by practicing usually between midnight and 2 or 3 in the morning. And I've come back a long way," he said, laughing. "But I have a long way to go."

About 20 years ago he purchased a large (6-foot-6), grand piano, a C-5 model Yamaha, for his home. He began playing it seven years ago in his late night vigils. Besides random times on trips where he might find a piano, he has played only for himself, nothing formal. He plans to only play for himself until he feels he has reached the level he wants to be. "You've got to be your own worst critic," he said.

He may look for a teacher but has no professional aspirations in classical piano.

"If I can get it back," he said of his former expertise, "I may do concerts for charity. But I don't know yet. I'll see what I've got left."

Paro, in Huntsville since 1979, also plans to travel with his wife of 39 years, Virginia, to visit national parks and historic sites throughout the U.S. He has two sons, Eugene and John, and two daughters, Kelly and Victoria. He led SAMD, an organization of more than 240 people which realizes annual foreign military sales exceeding \$1.5 billion, from October 1999 until he retired July 31.

"I have very mixed emotions," he said of retiring. "It's very difficult because I still have considerable energy and interest. Hopefully I can lose myself (in piano). The classical piano is very difficult. That'll keep me out of trouble."

He laughs as classical music plays in the background, with his father's etchings and sculptures nearby.

Don't blow your chance to survive tornado

Warning siren means time to take cover

By JOHN BLANDAMER
Garrison

Just when you thought it was time to go home, the tornado siren sounds. What should you do? No doubt as a parent your first instinct might be to get in the car and hurry home to make sure your family is protected.

If indeed a tornado warning has been issued for the installation or part of your path home, here are a few tornado facts that might suggest a more prudent course of action.

A tornado watch defines an area shaped like a parallelogram, where tornadoes and other kinds of severe weather are possible in the next several hours. It does not mean tornadoes are imminent — just that you need to be alert, and to be prepared to go to safe shelter if tornadoes do happen or a warning is issued. This is the time to turn on local TV or radio, turn on and set the alarm switch on your weather radio, make sure you have ready access to safe shelter, and make your friends and family aware of the potential for tornadoes in the area.

A tornado warning means that a tornado has been spotted, or that Doppler radar indicates a thunderstorm circulation that can spawn a tornado. When a tornado

warning is issued for your town or county, take immediate safety precautions. The on-post sirens are sounded when a tornado warning, not a tornado watch, has been issued. Work areas outside of the main cantonment area covered by the sirens should be aware of the weather and monitor e-mail and radio for tornado watch or warning notices. Follow your area's emergency action plan.

What to do

In an office building: Each building should have an emergency action plan that establishes the designated tornado shelter area for that location. If a tornado warning is issued go directly to an enclosed, windowless area in the center of the building — typically the first-floor hallway away from glass. Interior stairwells are usually good places to take shelter, and if not crowded, allow you to get to a lower level quickly. Stay off the elevators; you could be trapped in them if the power is lost. If a tornado directly approaches, crouch down and cover your head. At the end of your duty day, your supervisor can require you to stay in the shelter area only if he compensates you for this additional duty time. For your safety it is strongly recommended that you stay, even if your duty day has ended, until the tornado warning period has passed.

In a house with no basement, a dorm, or an apartment: Avoid windows. Go to

the lowest floor, small center room (like a bathroom or closet), under a stairwell, or in an interior hallway with no windows. Crouch as low as possible to the floor, facing down; and cover your head with your hands. A bathtub may offer a shell of partial protection. Even in an interior room, you should cover yourself with some sort of thick padding (mattress, blankets, etc.), to protect against falling debris in case the roof and ceiling fail. Have a plan and practice it with your family.

In a mobile home: Get out! Even if your home is tied down, you are probably safer outside, even if the only alternative is to seek shelter out in the open. Most tornadoes can destroy even tied-down mobile homes; and it is best not to play the low odds that yours will make it. If your community has a tornado shelter, go there fast. If there is a sturdy permanent building within easy running distance, seek shelter there. Otherwise, lie flat on low ground away from your home, protecting your head. If possible, use open ground away from trees and cars, which can be blown onto you.

In a car or truck: Vehicles are extremely dangerous in a tornado. If the tornado is visible, far away, and the traffic is light, you may be able to drive out of its path by moving at right angles to the tornado. Otherwise, park the car as quickly and safely as possible — out of the traffic lanes. It is safer to get the car out of mud later if necessary than to cause a crash. Get out and seek shelter in a sturdy building. If in the open country, run to low ground away from any cars (which may roll over on you). Lie flat and face-down, protecting the back of your head with your arms. Avoid seeking shelter under bridges, which can create deadly traffic hazards while offering little protection against flying debris.

Bridge unsafe

Stopping under a bridge to take shelter from a tornado is a very dangerous idea, for several reasons:

For more information on tornadoes and tornado safety visit these web sites:
General info and tornado safety — <http://www.spc.noaa.gov/faq/tornado/>
Alabama tornado statistics <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/bmx/aware/torstats.html#SEC4>

- Deadly flying debris can still be blasted into the spaces between bridge and grade — and impaled in any people hiding there.

- Even when strongly gripping the girders (if they exist), people may be blown loose, out from under the bridge and into the open — possibly well up into the tornado itself. Chances for survival are not good if that happens.

- The bridge itself may fail, peeling apart and creating large flying objects, or even collapsing down onto people underneath. The structural integrity of many bridges in tornado winds is unknown — even for those which may look sturdy.

- Whether or not the tornado hits, parking on traffic lanes is illegal and dangerous to you and others. It creates a potentially deadly hazard for others, who may plow into your vehicle at full highway speeds in the rain, hail or dust. Also, it can trap people in the storm's path against their will, or block emergency vehicles from saving lives.

Follow plan

So, back to our initial question: Just when you thought it was time to go home, the tornado siren sounds. What should you do? The siren indicates a tornado warning, a tornado has been spotted or identified on radar and we are in the warning area. Follow the emergency action plan for your area — generally moving to the lower level, center portion of your work area away from windows and glass. Get out of mobile homes or modular buildings and cars and into permanent structures or designated shelter areas.

Getting into your car and hurrying home places you at extreme risk and is highly discouraged. Wait until the all clear is given, then proceed home to check on your family. Prior to the sirens — when the tornado watch is posted — a quick call home to make your family aware of the tornado watch and to check the radio or TV for more details and to remind them of your home tornado plan of action is recommended.

■ Elect to exercise your right to vote

Vote

continued from page 12

to submit your request for an absentee ballot and when they have to be returned? We have a manual, we call it a bible, that lists every state's requirements."

Because the states vary in so many of the requirements surrounding the voting process, the FVAP has unit voting assistance officers on post to help Soldiers navigate the quagmire of voter requirements. Winston and Spencer are also available to help Soldiers and civilians with the process.

"We're here to make sure everyone has the opportunity to vote and to encourage them to do so," Winston, garrison human resources director, said.

The ability to exercise the right to vote was so important to Congress that a law was passed in 1988 and a Department of Defense directive was implemented to create the Federal Voter's Assistance Program to encourage voters to vote.

The purpose of the program is to inform, educate and assist servicemembers, their family members and DoD civilians in the voting process. The Redstone office sponsored several booths and tables located around post during Fourth of July weekend that offered informational voting material.

This month even more informational tables will be set up at various locations including the Post Exchange, Commissary, Bowling Center and several other places, along with every Soldier receiving a FPCA from his or her unit voting assistance officer as a part of the unit's per-

sonnel asset inventory (similar to a census).

"We'll also have a booth at the Team Redstone Retiree Appreciation Day, Aug. 28," Winston said. "Some 1,500-2,000 folks attend that event. We'll be there with a manned table to assist anyone with questions."

A permanent information table is set up at the Military Personnel Office in building 3494 and at the Space and Missile Defense Command.

The next big push comes Sept. 3-11, designated as Armed Forces Voter's Week — "the high point of the DoD Federal Voter's Assistance Program," Winston said. "We've planned several voting information tables and booths through the installation. Some will be manned during certain hours to help with questions. We'll have tables at the dining facility, PX, Bowling Center, Post Exchange, Sparkman Center, Child Development Center, Officers and Civilians Club and announcements in the Redstone Rocket and on the marquee in front of Heiser Hall."

Redstone maintains the program year-round but in years with "big" elections — presidential, gubernatorial, congressional and state legislative races, things are stepped up around the office. Reports — how it's being supported and implemented on Redstone — are filed regularly with the federal program to make sure all is being done to reach out to the military, their family members and DoD civilians.

"A lot of people think that one vote doesn't make a difference but the last election showed us that isn't true,"

Spencer said. "We're here to encourage people to exercise their right to vote. But you can't wait until the last minute to decide you want to. Most states require voters to register 30-45 days out. Now is the time to get everything in order to vote. We're here to help people do that."

Voting assistance officers include: Judith Richter, 876-0233; Garrison — 1st Sgt. Karen Amborski, 842-7091; 95th Maintenance Company — Sgt. 1st Class Charles Curtis, 955-8385; headquarters OMEMS — Richard Lee 876-9527; 59th Ordnance Brigade — Priscilla Sanders, 955-0127; HHC 59th — Sgt. 1st Class Wanda Walters, 876-5431 and Sgt. Mark Lewis, 313-5171; headquarters 832nd Ordnance Battalion — Capt. Stephen Smith, 842-0609; NCO Academy — Sgt. 1st Class Shawnette Richardson, 842-2902; Headquarters & Alpha Company — 1st Lt. Jonathan McDougal, 842-2230; Bravo Company — Capt. Blasé Kusterle, 842-0607; Charlie Com-

pany — 2nd Lt. Tezsllyn Johnson, 876-6871; Delta Company — 2nd Lt. Ronald Myers, 842-9876; Space and Missile Defense Command — Sarah Trial, 955-3352 and Marshall Grice, 955-3350; 8th Brigade ROTC — Master Sgt. Alex Taylor, 876-1310; Marine Detachment — Staff Sgt. Robert Smith, 876-4086; 902nd Military Intelligence Detachment — 1st Sgt. Kathleen Marquez 876-5943; MEDDAC — Capt. Laura Edwards, 955-8888, ext. 1150; Logistics Support Activity — Jon Dearmond, 955-0885; Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa. — Sgt. Maj. Edward Brown, DSN 570-8301 or (717) 267-8301; Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas — Paul Boardingham, DSN 861-2606 or (361) 961-2606; and Legal Office — Capt. Jonathan Thomas, 842-2069.

For more information on the program or to get help, call 842-2418 or visit the DoD voter's assistance web site at www.fvap.com.

Statewide partnership promotes pollution prevention

Representatives share ideas during meeting at Redstone

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Environmental coordinators from throughout Alabama have some concrete ideas they can share when they return to their organizations.

Concrete recycling was among the initiatives they learned about last week during a quarterly meeting of the Alabama and U.S. Department of Defense Pollution Prevention Partnership. The Garrison's Directorate of Environment and Safety served as host for the July 27-28 meeting at Redstone which drew 15 participants.

"We have representatives from the majority of the Department of Defense facilities from the state of Alabama in attendance," Gavin Adams, of the pollution prevention unit in the Alabama Department of Environmental Management in Montgomery, said.

Besides the representatives from military posts and ADEM, there were attendees from Marshall Space Flight Center, the Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency. Marshall and the Corps of Engineers were first-time participants.

"As for ADEM's involvement, we recognize the Department of



Photo by Gary Rush

RECYCLING PROGRAM— Members of the DoD pollution prevention team look at an empty toner cartridge container for possible use on their installations.

Defense is one of the largest employers and largest consumers of goods in the state," Adams said. "So what the DoD facilities do is also transferable to other industries as well. And DoD facilities in the state are one of the leaders in pollution prevention and that comes from upper-level commitment all the way down through the employees."

Dan Seaver and Ken Hewitt, both of Directorate of Environ-

ment and Safety, conducted the meeting. On July 27 the attendees saw a TOW-2B missile firing at Test Area 1 and the recycling and environmental programs. The recycling programs include toner cartridges, cardboard and concrete.

"In all of our recycling, we're trying to generate a return and have these things pay for themselves," Seaver, an engineer in the compliance division, said.

In 2002 Redstone began crushing concrete so it could be reused for roads. Some 15,000 tons a year are crushed and this saves a dollar a ton, according to Hewitt, an environmental engineer and program manager for solid waste/recycling. Projected savings amount to 11 years of landfill space.

"People were standing there and watching that (concrete) operation and were amazed with

the quality of the end product," Adams said.

"This is just one of the initiatives we talk about," Seaver said.

The Alabama and DoD P2 Partnership began in 1999 with the goal of enhancing mission readiness and community involvement by promoting environmental stewardship through pollution prevention.

"We're continuing to see if you have a problem you're not alone. And the partnership is a place where you turn to solve some of those issues," Adams said. "And environmental management systems seems to be a growing topic."

"I think everyone was pretty impressed with the mission and activities here at Redstone," Seaver said. "All the issues and topics that we've discussed have been interesting and people are going back to their installations and maybe see how they can implement some of these things."

The group, which previously met this year at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, is expected to gather again this fall at Anniston Army Depot.

"The partnership allows DoD installations to work closely with EPA and state regulators to better conserve resources, support mission readiness and avoid compliance violations," Gary Rush, of the Army Environmental Center, Southeast Region Environmental Office in Atlanta, said.

Health care procedures change under contract

FOX ARMY HEALTH CENTER RELEASE

Tricare began a new generation of health care contracts Aug. 1. The changes

in the contract will focus on improving business between Fox Army Health Center and Humana Military Healthcare Services, our Tricare network manager. Our

goal continues to be ensuring you have easy access to high quality health care.

Tricare Prime members will experience no change in access to health care at Fox Army Health Center, or to the Tricare network for referral services. However, note the following administrative changes.

The Tricare Service Center will continue to provide assistance with Tricare questions and Tricare Prime enrollment, and effective Aug. 1, the TSC also becomes your point of contact for all initial Primary Care Manager assignments, and PCM assignment changes. This change means that Tricare Prime members will no longer use Fox Army Health Center's web-based PCM Change Form. As of Aug. 1, Tricare Prime members must complete a form that will be available at the TSC and either mail it or submit it in person. The TSC may be reached at 1-800-444-5445.

The health care information line is being replaced by other health care information options that are easy to access and use. These include:

- Humana Military Healthcare Services audio library offers health care topics that you can access 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling this toll free number: 1-877-217-7946.

- e-Health Initiatives is a web based program available to all Military Health System beneficiaries on the Humana military web site at www.humana-military.com.

- Tricare Online has 24-hour general health care information by visiting this Internet site: www.tricareonline.com.

Beneficiaries can also access a Provider Locator Line around the clock by calling this toll free number: 1-800-444-5445.

Beneficiaries may access information about their Tricare benefits on the Tricare web site at www.tricare.osd.mil or visiting the TSC.

Fox Army Health Center, with Humana Military Healthcare Services, will continue to be a leader in innovative, high quality health care.

Health care program deploys for activated reservists

Defense Department opens temporary benefits program

TRICARE RELEASE

Members of the National Guard and Reserve, collectively known as the Reserve Component, who are issued delayed-effective-date active-duty orders for more than 30 days in support of a contingency operation may now submit claims for medical and dental care to Tricare.

Under the Department of Defense 2004 Temporary Reserve Health Benefit Program (Section 703 of the National Defense Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2004), they will be reimbursed for Tricare-covered medical and dental expenses incurred during the member's period of Tricare eligibility. Eligibility for the "early" Tricare benefit (up to 60 days prior to reporting to active duty) is recorded in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System.

Family members also are eligible for reimbursement for medical expenses for Tricare-covered services incurred during this "early eligibility" period.

Family members also may choose to enroll in the Tricare Dental Program. To obtain additional information on the TDP, family members may contact the program administrator, United Concordia Companies Inc., at www.ucci.com or at 800-866-8499.

Effective date

Tricare eligibility for RC members and their family members begins the later date of either: (a) the date their delayed-effective-date active-duty orders were issued or (b) 60 days before the member reported to active duty. In order to qualify for reimbursement, medical and/or dental services must be for a covered Tricare benefit; received during this early eligibility period; and received between Nov. 6, 2003, through Dec. 31, 2004, the specified time frame for this temporary program, unless further extended by law.

Eligible RC members were to receive a letter from Tricare Management Activity in July advising them of this temporary health care benefit. Members may verify their Tricare eligibility through the Guard and

Reserve secure web portal at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/Guard-ReservePortal>, or they may contact their service personnel office for more information. A link to service contacts is available on the Tricare web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/reserve-poc.cfm.

To apply for reimbursement for medical services covered under this temporary Tricare benefit, RC members and/or family members must submit a Tricare (Champus) claims form (DD Form 2642), a copy of their itemized bill, an explanation of benefits from other health insurance (if applicable) for services received, and proof of payment (if the bill was already paid) to their regional Tricare claims processor. To identify their Tricare medical claims processor, beneficiaries may go to the Tricare web site at www.tma.osd.mil and click on their state in the regional map on the home page. A downloadable Tricare claims form and information on claims processing is available on the Tricare web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/claims/default.cfm.

To apply for reimbursement

of dental expenses covered under the temporary benefit, eligible RC members must contact the Military Medical Support Office at <http://mmso.med.navy.mil> or 888 MHS-MMSO (888-647-6676). Family members who are already enrolled in the TDP will continue their enrollment, but at the lower premium share rate.

Enrollment eligibility

Family members who are not enrolled in the TDP become eligible to enroll in the TDP at the lower active duty family member premium share rate, but their enrollment in the TDP is not retroactive. Applications accompanied by a one-month premium payment must be submitted to United Concordia Companies Inc., the program administrator, by the 20th of a given month for coverage to begin the first day of the following month. Claims for dental services received prior to enrollment in the TDP are not reimbursable.

To enroll in the TDP, or get help with a dental claim, family members may contact United Concordia Companies Inc. at www.ucci.com or at 800-866-8499.

RC members and their families also may receive assistance by contacting their regional Tricare contractor, visiting a local Tricare service center, or by calling a beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinator. Beneficiaries may click on the regional map located on the home page of the Tricare web site at www.tricare.osd.mil to find regional contractors, or select "TSC" or "BCAC" from the drop-down menu in the top right corner of the front page. The Tricare Information Service, 888-DoD-CARE, (888-363-2273), also provides contact information for regional contractors.

Additional information on the "early" Tricare benefit, under Section 703, for members of the RC and their families, including a fact sheet with service personnel contact information, is available on the Tricare web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/Factsheets and on the Reserve Component web site at www.defenselink.mil/ra.

A list of frequently asked questions on this temporary Tricare benefit is also available by typing in the key word "Reserve" or "Early" at www.tricare.osd.mil/faqs.

■ Courtesy should go both ways at gates

Guards

continued from page 1

worker that comes on post has a job to do, so do we. If they (the regulations) tell you, you have to have this or that to get on post, make sure you have it. It's our job to make sure you do. We're here to help people get to work as safe as possible."

For the most part, the changeover in March from National Guard troops to the contract guard force securing the seven gates on the Arsenal has gone very well, according to Kevin Dykema, program manager for contract security.

The biggest problem seems to be that "everyone coming through the gates thinks they're the exception to the rule," Dykema said. "They're running late for a class or a meeting and don't think they should have to go through the proper security checks. We do try to go as quickly as possible but security has to be uppermost on our mind."

Although it seems like the rules to get onto the Arsenal change from day to day, that is not the case. Occasionally people with proper ID for access are pulled over for a complete inspection. Other times the security officers require individuals to remove the badge from a wallet or plastic pocket so they can perform a "hands on" verification.

"In this day and age, with all the advancements in computer technology,

we have to make sure the ID is genuine," security officer Derek Dougherty said. "And we vary the routine of random inspections, hands-on and 100 percent inspections as part of the security measures. It's not up to us personally. There's a matrix put out to us as to when to conduct those inspections."

Dougherty, still in the Guard, was a Soldier with the last National Guard unit to serve on the gates before the contract force took over. He left in March and was back on the gates as a contractor in May.

"I guess I expected some people to have a "rent-a-cop" attitude because people do look at things differently when they see a Soldier in BDUs with an M-16 standing there," Dougherty said. "But by the time I came on board, I think people were used to the change and they saw that we took our job just as serious as before."

"Most of the people here are friendly and understand we're here to protect them," he said. "But there's always some who don't like it. I think part of the problem is because different posts have different security measures. Some posts let you on with just a military ID. That's not the case here and it frustrates people sometimes."

And some people "just aren't morning people," Virden said. "It's pretty obvious when you're having a bad day." But that's not an excuse to be rude to the guards. More than 30,000 people come

through the Arsenal gates everyday. The average number of visitor passes issued each day is between 800 and 1,000. All visitor vehicles must be inspected and proper ID checked.

"We just ask that you please cooperate with us," Dougherty said. "Understand that we're doing our job. Be able to produce your driver's license, registration and proof of insurance. Those are things you need to have with you all the time anyway. And make sure your insurance is up-to-date. We can't let you on the Arsenal without valid insurance."

If you have a situation at the gate you don't feel is being handled appropriately by the security officers, there is something you can do.

"Don't get into an argument with the

guards," Dykema said. "Our guards are trained to be respectful and courteous while they're doing their jobs. We require it. If there's a problem, ask for a comment card. It's about the size of a business card and has contact information. Give the captain or myself a call. We deal with cases individually and try to come to a resolution."

"Our procedures are in place for the security of the whole installation," he said. "They're not meant to harass but people need to remember, terrorism is a real thing in this day and age. Here we are in 2004 still reeling from the results of 9/11. We never thought it would happen ... until it did. We never want to see it happen again. That's why we do what we do."

Lineup set for softball field rededication

Linton Field activities include All-Star game

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

The troop softball field stays busy Monday through Thursday during the preseason tournament, regular season and postseason playoffs. But not everyone knows its 50-year history.

Linton Field was originally dedicated May 17, 1954 in memory of Capt. Paul Melvin Linton of Lynn, Mass., who served at Redstone from November 1951 until February 1953 and died in Korea on Dec. 14, 1953.

The field will be rededicated Aug. 31.

"We're rededicating the field because the Linton family will be

in town during that time," Gaylene Wilson, sports and fitness director, said. "We've renovated the field so this is the first softball season we've played on that (newly renovated) field. So we're rededicating the field and honoring Capt. Linton and his family."

Linda Linton Bolino, his daughter, and Paul Linton Jr., his son, are expected to attend. The ceremony begins that evening at 6, followed by an All-Star game between the NASA and troop leagues. The winning team will receive a Redstone 2004 Championship trophy.

The May 25, 1954 *Redstone Rocket* had a front page article on the original dedication ceremony conducted by post commander Brig. Gen. Thomas K. Vincent.

"In memory of this loyal officer," Vincent said in his dedication address, "I hereby dedicate



Photo by Skip Vaughn

PLAY AREA— Linton Field is on the corner of Patton and Gray roads.

this athletic field at the Redstone Arsenal to his memory and name it Linton Athletic Field."

The Redstone band provided

music. With several hundred spectators in attendance, the opposing baseball teams lined up along the third and first base-

lines. A regimental combat team from Fort Campbell, Ky., was Redstone's opponent for the game following the ceremonies.

Let the softball postseason playoffs begin



Photo by Skip Vaughn

LONG GONE— Bravo's Reggie Williams hits a two-run homer in the first inning of a regular season game July 19 against MEDDAC but the Bulldogs lost 8-2.

MEDDAC, Bravo among favorites

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

HHC 59th pitcher Michael McGilton is realistic about his team's chances of repeating as post softball champion.

He points out that the 59th is losing six players this week as the postseason playoffs get under way.

"We're in trouble. We lose half our people during the playoffs," he said. "It's going to be a tight race between Delta, MEDDAC, Bravo and I hope HHC."

Bravo's Lee Diaz, an All-Army selection, was the winning pitcher and hit two homers as the Bulldogs beat the 59th 14-4 on July 27 at Linton Field.

Results from the final week of the regular season included:

- July 27 – Delta def. Headquarters & Alpha 17-7, Bravo def. HHC 59th 14-4 and Marines def. Charlie 15-3.
- July 29 – MEDDAC def. HHC 59th 15-8, Headquarters & Alpha def. Charlie 15-12 and Bravo def. Marines 17-7.

MEDDAC (11-1) earned the top seed and a first-round bye in the double-elimination tournament scheduled to begin Aug. 2. The championship is slated Aug. 9 at 6 p.m.

The final standings for the season were: Eastern Conference — Bravo (8-4), Marines (4-8), Charlie (2-10) and Headquarters & Alpha (2-10); and Western Conference — MEDDAC (11-1), Delta (8-4) and HHC 59th (7-5).

Kirkham wins annual golf tournament

Allen Kirkham won the annual Handicap Tournament, July 17-18 at Redstone Golf Course.

Kirkham, with a 29 handicap, was the overall men's open division winner with a two-day low net 133. He shot 92-99-191 which equates to 63-70-133.

Joan Arnold, with a 25 handicap, was the women's winner with 93-97-190 or 68-72-140.

Fifty-eight members teed up for event. At the end of the 36 holes, a German style cookout was provided by the Soldatenstube. The golfers thanked PGA professional Vicki Carpenter for organizing and conducting the tournament.

• Men's Open Division: Overall – Kirkham (29) 92-99-191/63-70-133. First flight – 1. Mike Brown (12) 83-80-163/71-68-139; 2. Lee Foster (10) 79-84-163/69-74-143; low gross John Kim (5) 76-75-151/71-70-141. Second flight – 1. Tom Gaillard (20) 91-88-179/71-68-139,

2. Irv Stuckey (18) 86-91-177/68-73-141; low gross Don Stanley (18) 86-92-178/68-74-142.

• Men's Senior Division: Overall – Jim Mann (15) 77-76-153/62-61-123. First flight – 1. Paul Stanger (16) 80-82-162/64-66-130; 2. Richard Stanger (16) 88-79-167/72-63-135; low gross Leo Pelitier (8) 78-78-156/70-70-140. Second flight – 1. Henry Snyder (29) 97-104-201; 2. Fred Burrows (23) 92-98-190/69-75-144; low gross Robert Sikorski (23) 96-97-193/73-74-147.

• Women's Division: Overall – Arnold (25) 93-97-190/68-72-140. First flight – 1. Jennifer Jensen (19) 90-89-179/71-70-141; 2. Joy McGuire (22) 92-93-183/70-71-141; low gross Jill Kirkham (8) 83-81-164/75-73-148. Second flight – 1. Pam Bucey (25) 98-95-193/73-70-143; 2. Becky Gaillard (28) 104-102-206/76-74-150; low gross Peggy Stanley (23) 101-105-206/78-82-160.

Soldiers compete in CISM games

By COURTNEY HICKSON
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Each year Sailors, Marines, Airmen and Soldiers make up about 20 teams that compete in the Conseil International Sports Military or CISM games.

The strongest sports are shooting, parachuting, modern pentathlon and men's basketball, according to Robert Hansgen, deputy secretariat of armed forces sports. On average, 110 Soldiers compete each year in CISM.

The members from the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit competed July 10-20 and the Golden Knights Army Parachute Competition Team will be competing Aug. 10-19.

There are 120 countries that have the opportunity to participate in the games; the members from the Marksmanship Unit faced 50 other nations in Ankara, Turkey. The Golden Knights will face 35 to 38 countries during August in Krems, Austria.

Seven shooters from the USAMU competed in the 39th CISM World Mili-

tary Shooting Championship, or Military World Games.

The men's rifle team won the team silver in the 300 meter Standard rifle match and bronze in 300 meter Military Rapid fire match. Lt. j.g. Eric Uptagrafft, Navy Reserve, won the "Worlds Best Rifleman" which had been held by Staff Sgt. Jason Parker. Parker could not defend his title as he was selected to the Olympic team and could not attend the CISM 2004.

The USAMU unit is located at Fort Benning, Ga. The team that competed in CISM had 11 armed forces personnel on it with seven from the Army. The members of the men's rifle team included Uptagrafft of the Navy Reserve and Sgt. 1st Class Thomas A. Tamas, Spc. Shane M. Barnhart and Spc. Trevor D. Gathman of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit. The women's rifle team had Capt. Deena L. Wigger and Capt. Dawn Parker of the Air Force and Spc. Mary K. Elsass of the USAMU. In addition, the men's pistol team included Lt. Cmdr. Thomas R. White of the Navy and Sgt. 1st Class Eric G. Daniels, Staff Sgt. Adam J. Holloway and Sgt. John C. Ennis, USAMU.



Courtesy photo

Snake charm

Art Clarkson, right, owner of the Tennessee Valley Vipers arenafootball2 team, presents a check for \$8,710 to Joe Fitzgerald, president of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army. This represents proceeds from the Vipers game jersey auction July 10 during Military Appreciation Night. The Vipers beat the Quad City Steamwheelers 48-41 at the Von Braun Center Arena.



Sports & Recreation

Ten-miler tryouts

Redstone will have tryouts for its Army Ten-Miler team 7 a.m. Saturday and Aug. 21 on a 10-mile course that begins and ends in the parking lot at Sparkman Fitness Center. The team is to have six military — including active duty, National Guard and Reserves — and four civilian members. The 20th annual race is Oct. 24 in Washington, D.C. For more information, call Skip Vaughn 876-1500 or Alexander Steel 876-3867.

Volleyball signups

Child and Youth Services' youth volleyball signup continues through Aug. 16 at the CYS Central Enrollment Office, building 1500. Open to children and youth of active duty, retired, and Guard/ Reserve military, DoD, DoA, RSA/ NASA contractors and dependents ages 8-15 as of Sept. 1, 2004. Cost per child is \$40, and children must be enrolled in CYS to play. Additional \$18 fee will apply if not currently registered. A copy of birth certificate and current sports physical required at time of registration. Volunteer coaches always needed and greatly appreciated. Teams are coed in age groups: 10 and under, 12 and under, and 15 and under. For more information, call 313-2177.

Rocketman triathlon

The 11th annual John Masterson Memorial Heart Center Rocketman Triathlon is Aug. 29 at 7:30 a.m. at the Col. Hudson Recreation Area on Redstone Arsenal. The race benefits the Marine Corps Reserve "Toys for Tots" Program. For more information, call race director Bob Mulkey 883-7399 evenings.

Bike ride

The Spring City Cycling Club will hold an 18-mile bike ride through NASA and Redstone technical test areas Aug. 30 at 11 a.m. at Sparkman gym in conjunction with Test Week 2004, Aug. 30 through Sept. 2. Signup forms are on web site www.testevaldays.com or can be obtained from Sherry Hilley 842-6715. There is no fee for participation.

Babe Ruth baseball

Registrations for the 2004 Huntsville Babe Ruth Fall Baseball Season will be held on Saturdays, Aug. 7, 14 and 21 from 9 a.m. to noon at Sandhurst Park, Brahan Springs Recreation Center and Optimist Park. Players ages 13-19 as of July 31, 2005 are invited. The game schedule is tentatively set to run Sept. 18 through Nov. 14. The registration fee is \$65 per player, and a birth certificate is required for all new players. Persons interested in coaching a team are encouraged to apply as well. The Babe Ruth parks and their primary contacts include: Brahan Springs, Bud Gambrell 564-5612; Sandhurst, Tim Harrison 544-3180; Optimist, Ken Farnell 534-5060; and Mastin Lake, David Delisser 851-4006.



Conferences & Meetings

Test and evaluation

"Test Week 2004," Aug. 30 to Sept. 2 at South Hall, Von Braun Center, represents a partnership between the Army Test & Evaluation Days Conference and the International Test and Evaluation Association annual International Symposium. Keynote speakers, workshops and panels of experts will address the future of armed forces, systems engineering processes, automotive and aerospace activities, and international T&E. An exhibition featuring more than 90 industry, government and academia organizations demonstrating products and capabilities will be held in conjunction with the technical program of the conference. Web sites for information are www.itea.org or www.testevaldays.com. For more information, call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

Space and missile defense

The seventh annual Space and Missile Defense Conference and Exhibition is Aug. 16-19 at the Von Braun Center with the theme "Missile Defense: Deployment and Beyond." The conference is sponsored by the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Association, the National Defense Industrial Association's Tennessee Valley Chapter and the Air Defense Artillery Association's Huntsville Chapter. The Space and Missile Defense Command is a major participant. To register call Jeanne Weaver 533-6986 by Aug. 10. For more information, call Giselle Bodin 955-3889.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Aug. 19 from 6:30-7:30 in the morning in the Twickenham Room at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Jean Rose 313-1659.

Enlisted spouses

The Enlisted Spouses Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Challenger Activity Center. For more information call Jennifer Kennedy 837-3310, ext. 3.

Alcorn State alumni

The Tennessee Valley Alumni Chapter of Alcorn State University invites all alumni and friends to its next meeting and cook-out Saturday at 4 p.m. at 475 Highland Drive, Madison. For more information, call Melvin Mayo 852-7927 or Sam King 864-7272.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Controllers will hold its monthly meeting Aug. 12 at 11:30 a.m. at the Trinity Personal Growth Center on Airport Road. Lyle Douglas is to speak on "Exercise in Your Busy Lifestyle." For tickets — \$9 members, \$10 non-members — see your organization ASMC representative or call Kim Jean 876-7208 or Lisa Lowry 876-1423.

Union meeting

AFGE Local 1858 will hold its monthly membership meeting Monday at 5 p.m. at the union office, building 3202.



Miscellaneous

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B/74B information systems operators and 75B/H unit administration. For 74B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F are now authorized to convert to 74B as well. For specialty 74C or 74F, they are now authorized to convert to 75B as well. For an interview, call Charles Vartan 876-0604 (work) or 883-8891 (home).

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. To bid on this property, go to www.gsaauctions.gov. For more information, call 544-4667.

Child care

Child and Youth Services Central Enrollment is accepting applications through Aug. 13 for "Before and After School Care" for children in grades K-5th. Register between 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Challenger Community Activity Center, building 1500. For more information, call Chris Carter 876-3704 or Pam Berry 876-7801.

Redstone motorcycle training

Experienced Riders Motorcycle Training is conducted at the Rocket Harley-Davidson Dealership off I-565 and Greenbrier Road. Soldiers, DoD civilians and military retirees are funded by the government. Contractors pay \$75 per person. For registration information, call Keith Coates 876-3383 or John Zuber 876-3114 of the Garrison Safety Office.

Purple Heart service

The Military Order of the Purple Heart, Chapter 2201, Huntsville, will hold its annual Purple Heart Memorial Service at 4 p.m. Thursday at Heiser Hall. For more information, call Don or Annie Powers 882-9374.

Soldier readiness event

The Military Personnel Division will hold a Soldier Readiness Processing event Aug. 10-11 from 7-11 a.m. and 12:30-3 p.m. in building 3493. This event will be for any Soldier in the Redstone/Madison area who does not have an up-to-date deployment packed at their unit PAC. Any unit interested in participating should call Larry Marvin 876-4252.

Youth skills classes

SKIESUnlimited is a nationwide pilot program for children of military and Department of Defense personnel, including contractors. A pilot program is being run on Redstone Arsenal for Tennis Lessons, Kindernastics, Cheernastics, Tumbling, Mommy and Me, Kindermusik, and Tae Kwon Do. Parents may register their children in these classes at Child and Youth Services Central Enrollment, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 313-3701.

Theater ticket discounts

Civilian Welfare Fund Council is offering discount tickets for the 2004-05 Broadway Theatre League Series. The shows for this season are "42nd Street," "The Full Monty," "Cirque Dreams," "Thoroughly Modern Millie" and "Oklahoma." The CWFC discount season ticket prices are \$193 for orchestra II seating, \$155 for loge seating, and \$112 for balcony seating. To purchase tickets, respond via e-mail to charles.urban@redstone.army.mil by Aug. 6. Provide your preference for performance dates, times, seat location and number of tickets. For information about show times, dates and seating locations, visit www.btleague.org.

Contributions sought

Frequent flier mile donations are sought for officers of the Huntsville Bi-Polar Support Group to attend the National Depression and Bi-Polar Support Alliance Conference in Pittsburgh, Pa., Aug. 12-15. To donate miles or money to Huntsville's Bi-Polar Support Group activities, call

Myra Yancy at Mental Health Center 705-6418. This group meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the Mental Health Center's Community Room on South Memorial Parkway. Bi-Polar, also called manic-depressive disorder, is successfully controlled with proper medication and treatment. Learn the laws that apply to mental health issues, legislative proposals, housing rights, and other related topics at these support group meetings. Join others who live with this disease, share their stories and give supportive friendship.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, in building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Tuesdays 9-5 and Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-12:30. Appointments are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-2. The shop will be open this Saturday from 10-2 for sales only. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. Handmade craft items are accepted for consignment. The shop can recycle all your inkjet, fax, printer, copier and laser jet cartridges. Volunteers are sought for the afternoons. For more information, call 881-6992.

Investors fair

The North Alabama Chapter of the National Association of Investment Clubs will hold its annual Investors Fair Aug. 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the University of Alabama-Huntsville Administrative Science Building. The Investors Fair provides financial and investment classes for stock market investors. Lunch is included in the fee of \$40 paid in advance or \$50 at the door. For more information call Barb Gierloff 883-9947 or Sara Crocker 883-9664.

Right arm night

All Redstone personnel are invited to "Right Arm Night," celebrating the enduring legacy of camaraderie and esprit de corps between the officer and enlisted ranks, Friday from 4-7 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. This fun event includes door prizes. Cost is \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door. For tickets contact the Officers and Civilians Club, unit command sergeants major or first sergeants.

Helicopter society

The Redstone Chapter of the American Helicopter Society will present a technical/training session featuring the Aviation Applied Technology Directorate and AeroFlight Dynamics Directorate, Aug. 12 from 1:30-4 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Cost is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members and \$7 for students. This event will be free to all new members that join the day of the session. For reservations call Tim Kraatz 726-3684 by Aug. 9.

Wall of honor

A "Wall of Honor" was conceived and organized as a show of appreciation and support for mobilized Reservists, National Guard and active military from Huntsville and the surrounding area by members of American Legion Post 176. On Aug. 22 at 2 p.m., they will consecrate the Wall of Honor with names of Tennessee Valley members of America's armed forces serving in the Middle East. Family members and the general public are invited to the dedication ceremony. The planning committee requests family members in the Tennessee Valley to provide names of their loved ones serving in the Persian Gulf. Call Arvil Burchfield 489-0709.

Latin dance

SaborLatino would like to invite you to "SaborLatino Nite," Saturday at Club Ozz on 1204 Posey St., with disc jockey Signey Hernandez. Salsa lessons will be given from 9-10 p.m., followed by the party from 10 until 2 a.m. Cost is \$6 for ages 21 and older, \$10 for those 20 and under. For more information, call hostess Yvonne 527-9364.

Youth drivers

A Defensive Driving course is open to youth whose parent/guardian are military, retired military, DoD, DA, contractor or NASA employees and between the ages of 15 and 18. The youth must be registered at Child and Youth Services Central Enrollment Registration, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. The registration cost is \$18 and is current for one year. The defensive driving course is an online driving course for youth 15-18. The course

will be held Aug. 14 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Youth Center, building 3148. Youth who complete the course will receive a certificate of completion that may be used to receive a discount off automobile insurance. For more information, call Pam Berry 955-6309.

Character counts

Child and Youth Services will soon host the Character Counts Program. Youth in grades 6-12 who attend will participate in activities centered around the six pillars of the Character Counts Program. Class time is Aug. 14 from 1-5 p.m. at the Youth Center, building 3148. The pillars are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, citizenship, caring and fairness. The session will include games, role-playing and group discussion. Participants will learn the importance of these positive character traits in everyday life. For more information, call 313-3609.

Office closing

The office of the Staff Judge Advocate will be closed Aug. 10 and 20. In the event of an emergency, call Sgt. 1st Class Keith Willard (256) 212-2005.

Women's equality luncheon

The combined Federal Women's Programs present the Women's Equality Day luncheon and awards ceremony, Aug. 26 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is Col. Mari Eder, Army's deputy chief of pub-

lic affairs. Tickets cost \$10 and can be purchased from Carol Toney of OPM, 837-1271, ext. 6; Demetria Cruz of COE, 895-1575; Becky Miller of Garrison, 876-9223; Billie Swinford of NASA, 544-0087; James Braxton of AMCOM, 955-7040; Mary Peoples of SMDC, 955-4275; or Angela Morton of MSIC, 313-7271. For special accommodations call Becky Miller of Garrison EEO Office, 876-9223.

Silent auction fund-raiser

The 2004 Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is gearing up for this year's campaign. An online Silent Auction will be held in late October as part of the CFC fund-raising activities. In 2002 the silent auction raised more than \$11,000 and helped increase awareness of CFC with federal donors. You can help by donating or collecting items for the auction. Suggested items include gift baskets, sport memorabilia, gift certificates, antiques, jewelry, paintings, handmade items, family business services, etc. All donors will receive official acknowledgment for any items or services provided for their personal records. Items can be dropped off at the CFC Office, building 3708 on the corner of Patton and Aerobee roads. Donations are needed by Sept. 13. For more information call Maria Clark, chairman of the CFC Silent Auction Committee, 313-7620 (work) or 653-4695 (cell phone)

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS		CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
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